

Appl. N . 10/659,602  
Amdt. Dated Jun. 28, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of March 26, 2004

### **REMARKS**

Applicant respectfully appreciates the allowance of claims 5-15.

#### ***Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)***

Claims 1-4, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bakermans et al. (US Patent 4,461,522).

In response to this rejection, applicant has amended independent Claim 1 to contain subject matter which defines over prior art. By such amendments, applicant believes that amended Claim 1 is now patentable over the cited prior art. Detailed explanations are given below.

Dependent claim 2 is canceled without prejudice.

Regarding amended Claim 1, an electrical connector comprises an insulative housing. The insulative housing comprises a base having a pair of side walls. Each side wall defines an outer face exposed to an exterior in a transverse direction. A slot is formed between the pair of side walls of the electrical connector and extends along a longitudinal direction. A plurality of passageways and recesses are both defined in the side walls. Each recess extends from a corresponding passageway outwardly toward and **terminating at the outer face of the side wall**. A plurality of electrical contacts is received in the passageways of the insulative housing.

However, referring to all the FIGS of Bakermans et al, Bakermans et al **does not** disclose a recess extending from a passageway and **terminating at an outer**

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**face of the housing 12.** Examiners do not specifically suggest a recess extending from a passageway and terminating at an outer face of the housing 12. It is essential to examiners to show the recess or the like extending from a passageway and terminating at an outer face of the housing 12. Independent Claim 1 should carry more patentability over Bakermans et al.

Dependent claims 3-9 are also believed to be patentable since they depend, either directly or indirectly, from independent claim 1.

In view of the above claim amendments and remarks, the subject application is believed to be in a condition for allowance and an action to such effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,  
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